

ABSTRACT

The streaming-media input port provides an inexpensive way to get a video signal from an audio/video device (such as a camcorder) into a personal computer in a convenient streamable media format (e.g., Windows Media Format). This streaming-media input port is an external hardware device that captures media content (i.e., video and audio) input, compresses it, converts it to an immediately streamable media (ISM) format, and sends it to a coupled computer for immediate storage or use. Such a use is transmission over the Internet to a streaming media player. This use allows for a "live" transmission from a typical analog video camera. The computer receiving media data in the ISM format from the streaming-media input port does not need to decompress and recompress the media data. It may directly save to storage or transmit to the streaming media player. It may do so without any modifications to the format of the media data.